

Merry Christmas And Welcome to Church!



25th December 2023

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around.

"Fear not" said he, (for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind), "Glad tidings of great joy I bring, To you and all mankind.

To you in David's town this day, Is born of David's line, A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, And this shall be the sign. The heavenly babe you there shall find, To human view displayed, All meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes, And in a manger laid."

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11: 2-4



Luke Chapter 1:26-40

The Angel appears to Mary

[26] And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

[27] To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

[28] And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

[29] And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

[30] And the angel said unto her, Fear

not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

[31] And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

[32] He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

[33] And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

[34] Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

[35] And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

[36] And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.[37] For with God nothing shall be

impossible.

[38] And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

[39] And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda;

[40] And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

Mathew Chapter 1:18-25

The Angel appears to Joseph

[**18**] Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

[**19**] Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

[20] But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. [21] And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
[22] Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
[23] Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

[24] Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

[**25**] And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King, Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled, Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

> Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb, Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more need die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth, Hail the Heavenly Prince of Peace, Hail the Son of righteousness, Light and Life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.

> Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.

SILENT NIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night, All is calm, all is bright, Round yon' virgin, mother and child, Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent Night, Holy Night, Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah, Christ, the Saviour, is born, Christ, the Saviour, is born.

Silent Night, Holy Night, Son of God, love's pure Light, Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Luke. 2:1-7 *The birth of Jesus*

[1] And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

[2] (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

[3] And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

[4] And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is calledBethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

[5] To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

[6] And so it was, that, while they were

there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

[7] And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke. 2:8-20 Announcement to the Shepherds

[8] And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
[9] And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

[10] And the angel said unto them, Fear

not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.[11] For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

[12] And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

[13] And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

[14] Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

[15] And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, whichthe Lord hath made known unto us.[16] And they came with haste, and found

Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

[17] And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

[18] And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

[19] But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

[20] And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Elisabeth

A song by

Anna-Lucia Ricardo

and

Lillian Ricardo

Elisabeth

There's an echo in your voice I've heard before, Such emptiness All the years of crying out for something more, But you have lived to see That joy comes in the morning Come and lay your head On His promises Oh, find your rest Elisabeth

Elisabeth

Feel the baby dance for joy within your womb, Magnificent Mary's Son is sent to overcome the tomb, But you have lived to see That joy comes in the morning Come and lay your head On His promises Oh, find your rest Elisabeth Woman after woman who will follow Will carry beauty and a longing of their own When I hear the rhythm of your name Oh, I remember once again That none of us will ache without a living hope

Elisabeth Oh, blessed is the one who has believed, In the Rising Sun Who will guide our feet into the path of peace, For we will live to see That joy comes in the morning Come and lay your head On His promises Oh, find your rest Elisabeth

Oh, Elisabeth

Luke. 2:21-40

Presentation at the Temple

[21] And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

[22] And when the days of herpurification according to the law ofMoses were accomplished, they broughthim to Jerusalem, to present him to theLord;

[23] (As it is written in the law of theLord, Every male that openeth the wombshall be called holy to the Lord;)

[24] And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

[25] And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

[**26**] And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

[27] And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

[28] Then took he him up in his arms,

and blessed God, and said,

[29] Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:[30] For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

[**31**] Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

[**32**] A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

[**33**] And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

[**34**] And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

[35] (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. [36] And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; [37] And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. [38] And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. [**39**] And when they had performed all

things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

[40] And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

Matthew 2:1-12

Visit of the wise Men

[1] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

[2] Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

[**3**] When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

[4] And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

[5] And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of

Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, [6] And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

[7] Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

[8] And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
[9] When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
[10] When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
[11] And when they were come into the house,

they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

[12] And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.



Joy to the World (Hymn 108)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, Let earth receive her King, Let every heart prepare Him room, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns, Let men their songs employ, While field and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove, The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, and wonders, of His love.

Wise Men from the east

Matthew 2:[1] Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem



What do we know about the wise men from the biblical account?

What do we know about the wise men from the biblical account?

- 1. They were wise
- 2. They came from the east
- 3. They identified Jesus with the appearance of a star
- 4. They went to Herod assuming the baby was of royal birth
- 5. Herod asked them to return and tell him where the baby was
- 6. The star led them to Bethlehem
- 7. They fell down and worshiped Jesus
- 8. They brought 3 gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh
- 9. They were warned not to go back to Herod
- 10. Herod slew children 2 years and under

Also known as

- 1. The 3 Magi
- 2. The 3 kings
- 3. The 3 wise men

How do we know there were 3?

As there were 3 gifts it is assumed there were 3

Why are they described as kings?

Psalm 68: [29] Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.

Psalm 72: [9] They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

[10] The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

[11] Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

Isaiah 60: [1] Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

[2] For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:

but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. [3] And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Why did they give the gifts they did?

- 1. gold as a symbol of kingship on earth,
- 2. frankincense (an <u>incense</u>) as a symbol of deity, used in worship
- 3. myrrh (an embalming oil) as a symbol of death.

When did they come?

- 1. described as coming to a house not the stable
- 2. traditionally on the 6th January not necessarily straight after the 25th
- 3. this is known as epiphany
- 4. Herod kills children 2 years and under
- 5. They may have come 2 years after his birth

Do we know their names or where they came from?

From about the 8th century they were known as

- 1. Balthasar
 - a. is often represented as a king of Arabia or sometimes Ethiopia,
 - b. frequently depicted as a Middle Eastern or Black man in art.
 - c. He is usually said to have given the gift of myrrh
- 2. Melchior
 - a. as a king of Persia,
 - b. said to have given the gift of gold
- 3. Gaspar
 - a. king of India.
 - b. said to have given the gift of frankincense

https://www.patheos.com/blogs/standingonmyhead/the-riddle-of-the-three-wise-men



We three kings

We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts, we traverse so far, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder Star.

O, Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again, King for ever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. O, Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

Glorious now, behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Earth to the heav'ns replies.

O, Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.

Terrigal Christian Israelite Church

Thanks for joining us

Next service:

Sunday 11.30am

A thought for Christmas:-

"Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.." Matthew 2:2 If you can't be here.... listen in live or hear the recording at <u>tcichurch.org.au</u>



O, Come All Ye Faithful

O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O, come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem, Come, and behold Him, Born the King of Angels,

> O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above, Glory to God, in the Highest,

> O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be glory given, Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing,

O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, O, come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.